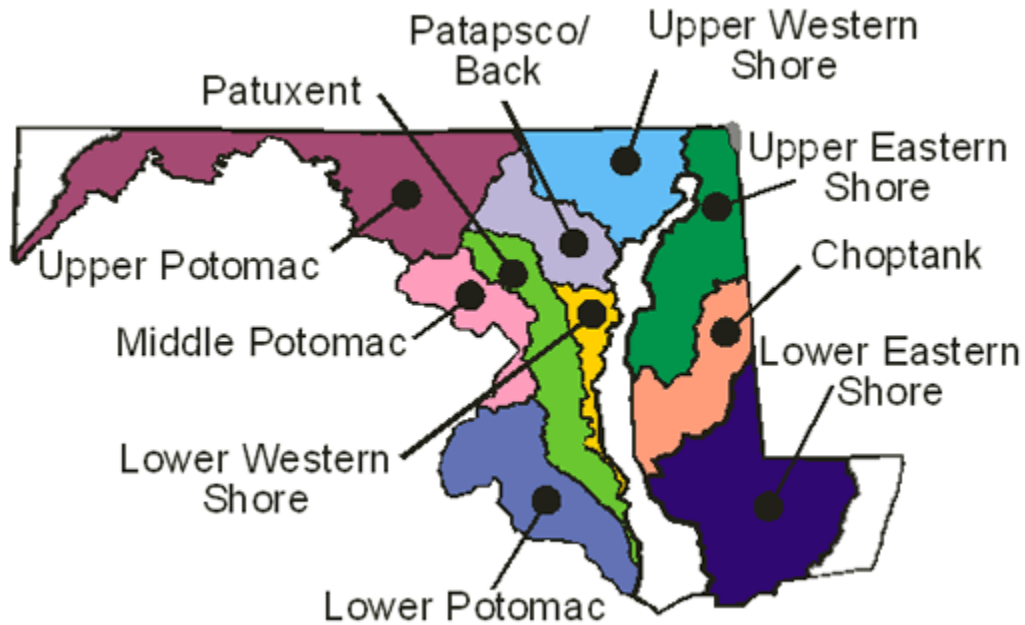


What is Maryland River of Words®?

Maryland River of Words is a poetry and art contest for all Maryland entries to the International Contest. To be considered, you **must** have entered the International contest.

After the national contest, all Maryland entries will be returned to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. These entries will be automatically entered into the State contest. Entries will then be divided up into the 10 tributary strategy areas based on the residence of the contestant.



In each tributary area, awards for a finalist poem and a finalist artwork in each of two age categories listed below:

Category 1:	Kindergarten - Grade 6
Category II:	Grade 7 – Grade 12

These awards will be made at the Annual Tributary Wade-Ins held in June.

The tributary finalists will go on to the State Competition. An awards ceremony will be held the first Saturday of State Fair. One state champion will be awarded for a poem and artwork in the above- mentioned age categories. Prizes will be awarded.